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PRESS RELEASE

July 21, 2011

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FEMA launches 8th annual National Preparedness Month in September 2011

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Ready Campaign encourages all Americans to prepare their families, businesses and communities for a variety of emergencies during National Preparedness Month (NPM) in September.

The eighth annual NPM will kickoff this September, using the slogan: "A Time to Remember. A Time to Prepare." The campaign seeks to transform awareness into action by encouraging all Americans to take the necessary steps to ensure that their homes, workplaces and communities are prepared for disasters and emergencies of all kinds.

"As we move forward with planning for this year's events and activities, we also recognize that this September marks the ten year anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "By doing what we can to ensure that our communities, and our nation, are prepared to respond and recover from all types of disasters and hazards, we honor the memory of those who were lost that day."

FEMA web sites offer a number of ideas on how to prepare for fires, natural disasters, terrorist attacks and other potential threats. The Ready Campaign is the perfect vehicle for CAP squadrons to select one meeting night in September to invite family members and community guests to an open house with a presentation focusing on the importance of being prepared for the unexpected.

Individuals and groups can now register to become NPM coalition members by visiting community.fema.gov. Once registered, members have access to a toolkit that includes suggestions for activities and events, templates, articles, banners and customizable materials. Coalition members also have access to an events calendar allowing them to post and promote preparedness events, share success stories, and participate in national and regional discussion forums to engage with fellow coalition members and FEMA representatives.

The Ready Campaign's websites (<u>ready.gov</u> and <u>listo.gov</u>) and toll-free numbers (1-800-BE-READY and 1-888-SE-LISTO) provide free emergency preparedness information and resources available in English and Spanish. Additionally, through FEMA's partnership with the Ad Council, public service announcements are available to increase the American public's involvement in preparedness.

Source: FEMA press release